

~~Top Secret~~

POLAND: Attacks on the US

*The regime has begun a propaganda campaign against the US Government. Last week, Warsaw told Western bankers it would impose a moratorium on debt payments coming due in 1982. The coal mines near Katowice in the south are a focus of unrest.*

The authorities appear to have begun a major propaganda campaign against alleged US intelligence activity in Poland. At a news conference yesterday, internal security officials charged that US intelligence agents played a substantial part in creating and supporting dissident organizations in Poland.

The officials supported their claims by showing film clips of activity by former US diplomats in Poland. The same material is being used in a two-part television series that ended yesterday. Polish media also are beginning to portray the Solidarity Day television broadcast tomorrow as a joint production of the CIA and the US International Communications Agency.

Comment: These intensified propaganda attacks seem intended to reduce the impact of the broadcast, undermine the credibility of all broadcasts controlled by USICA, and shift the blame for unrest in Poland to the US. They might also presage increased harassment of US diplomatic personnel or a renewed crackdown on intellectuals for alleged links with Western intelligence agencies.

Debt Service Moratorium

Warsaw last week told Western bankers that "for the time being" it would pay no interest or principal coming due in 1982. This moratorium announcement accompanied a promise to pay by 15 February interest due up to the end of 1981.

Comment: The moratorium reflects Warsaw's concentration on covering interest arrears for 1981 to complete the private debt rescheduling for last year before paying any obligations for 1982.

--continued

~~Top Secret~~

29 January 1982

Approved for Release  
Date AUG 1999

399

~~Top Secret~~

[REDACTED]

Warsaw stands little chance of paying on time and will remain in danger of default. [REDACTED]

Areas of Tension

A Solidarity activist who recently made an "illegal" trip to Katowice told [REDACTED] that the atmosphere there is much more militant than in Warsaw. He said that miners and intellectuals were preparing for violent resistance in the spring. [REDACTED]

Comment: This report generally dovetails with Archbishop Glemp's statement [REDACTED] this week that the Baltic coast, Warsaw, and Silesia continue to be areas of tension. The region around Katowice remains a center of resistance to martial law, in part because of the deaths of miners last month during clashes with security forces. Silesia is perhaps the likeliest area for any violence. [REDACTED]

~~Top Secret~~

29 January 1982

[REDACTED]